chi, Pakistan from Daman, Saudi Arabia. In response to our enquiries in the matter, these reports could not be confirmed.

(b) Government have seen Press reports that Pakistan is strengthening its air force by acquiring an additional 40 F-7p fighter aircraft from China. However, there have been no reports confirming the signing of the contract.

(c) Government has under constant review factors affecting the nation's security and appropriate action is taken to safeguard the nation's interests.

Potato Research Centre in Bihar

4598. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nalanda district in Bihar has been one of the most important potato growing areas in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any plan to establish a Research Centre for high yielding seed for potato in this district; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA) (a) Sir, Nalanda is an important potato growing district in Bihar.

(b) No

(c) Does not arise.

Grant of Mining Lease in Bihar

4599. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has granted mining leases as adjudicated by the Mining Tribunal of the Union Government during 1990-91; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Loading/Unloading Labourers in IISCO

4600. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contract for loading and unloading work of IISCO, in West Bengal has been given to non-contract labourers during 1990-91;

(b) if so, whether the company propose to pay wages to contract labourers without doing any work; and

(c) if not, the fate of these labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*English*]

LPG Agencies in Saidpur Parliamentary Constituency

4601. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: